

## Why Not More Fire Companies?

The sketch of the career of Captain J. G. B. Key, of Fire Engine Company No. 4, in our last week's issue, should serve to call the attention of our people to the need, the justice, and the fairness of at least two more fire companies manned by colored men.

Our reporter's sketch was largely personal, but the bravery, intelligence, and devotion of Captain Key can be attested by probably every man of his company when opportunity presents. There is no law in the code of the company—they have proved themselves competent and efficient in their twelve years of service. Why then do we not have other units—two at least?

By all means, the fire house on M Street near New Jersey Avenue and the one on R Street between Ninth and Tenth Streets, Northwest, should be manned by colored men. What an inspiration and incentive both might be to the boys attending the various high and junior high schools in the neighborhoods of these companies.

We say inspiration to high school boys advisedly, for be it known that both in pay and in educational ratings, even the rank and file positions in these companies, stand higher than most opportunities open to our high school and college graduates—and the standards are continually being raised.

It is of course regrettable that these positions, like those of teaching, and even of professional service, can only be filled in segregated units. Even so, the race needs the financial assistance they will bring as well as an opportunity to demonstrate that we can capably fill and control units of public service if given a chance.

Boosting our banks and other financial concerns is all to the good, but we also need employment of the sort that will enable us to support these concerns.

A few years ago a movement was launched looking to the securing of more colored fire companies. It did not bring results. One reason given was that too few colored men presented themselves for the examinations.

The civil service commission informs The Tribune that no date has been set for the next examination, but that need not deter our civic bodies and other representative organizations from agitating the matter and urging qualified young men to prepare themselves for the examination when it comes. The Tribune will give due notice of time and place. In the meantime let us see the proper authorities and secure the needed pledges if we can furnish the required personnel.



**DO COLORED COPS MAKE GOOD?**—Private Lawrence L. Jackson, member of D.C. police force, credited for meritorious action during the year.



**MR. GAITHER, MEET MR. HALL.**—Private William H. Hall, colored D.C. policeman, who was cited for his meritorious actions recently, is a member of the Metropolitan Police Department.



# SIX NEW POLICEMEN

The appointment of six new policemen for Savannah last week was surrounded with peculiar circumstances. It is reported that some of these vacancies were caused by improper conduct on the part of the officers who were discharged. The significant part of the appointment is that no representative of half of the population was eligible for a place on the police force, when we have men just as qualified morally, physically or otherwise, but are barred purely on the grounds of race and color.

There is absolutely no good reason why we should not have representatives of the race on the police and fire departments as well as the city council and every other organized body where the interest of taxpayers and all the citizens is concerned. There is no other group with almost fifty per cent of the population that would be so easily satisfied with such little consideration in the distribution of public jobs. The authorities of the city of Savannah are displaying very poor Christian spirit, to say nothing of human justice when they do not even allow Negroes such menial jobs as streetsweepers. Think rank discrimination is due wholly because Negroes do not take any interest in politics and have no voice in naming those endowed with the power of dispensing public appointments. The most fundamental doctrine for Negro leaders and teachers to instill into the minds and hearts of old and young is to qualify to vote and to never be content without the privilege to exercise the full right of suffrage. It is our only weapon of defense against an economic boycott that is destined to starve us to death.

## Atlanta Negroes Ask Police Jobs

Appointment of Members of Race on Force Is Sought

ATLANTA, Oct. 4. (AP)—More than 200 Negro citizens have petitioned city council for the appointment of a number of Negroes to the Atlanta police force. 10-5-33

The petition set out that the Negro policemen could be used in the sections populated by Negroes as is done in "such other southern cities as St. Louis, Daytona Beach, Knoxville, Tulsa, Oklahoma City and San Antonio."

The petitioners said they are citizens, taxpayers and residents of the city. They set forth that approximately one-third of Atlanta's population is composed of Negroes and "a goodly number" are property owners and taxpayers but that not one Negro is on the police force.

The petitioners said they are thus being deprived of protection which could be furnished by members of their own race and of "equal opportunity to earn a livelihood out of public funds."

## Council Petitioned To Allow Selection Of Negro Policemen

More than 200 citizens, acting under auspices of the Atlanta Negro Chamber of Commerce, petitioned city council Wednesday for the appointment of a "representative number of negro citizens who deserve such appointments" to the city police force.

These policemen could be used in sections of the city populated by negroes, the petition sets out, as is done in "such other southern cities" as St. Louis, Daytona Beach, Knoxville, Tulsa, Oklahoma City, and San Antonio.

The petitioners, numbering about 215, describe themselves as "citizens, taxpayers, and residents of the city of Atlanta, being firm believers in the Democratic form of government."

They set forth that approximately one-third of Atlanta's population is negro, and that a "goodly number" of these are property owners and taxpayers, but that not one negro is on the police force. Thus, the petitioners say, negro citizens are being deprived of protection which could be furnished by members of their own race and of "equal opportunity to earn a livelihood out of public funds."

The petition is on file with City

Clerk J. Henson Tatum and will go to city council at the next regular session of that body.

## City Petition Asks Negro Policemen

Petition for the appointment of a representative number of negro policemen in the Atlanta force was filed Wednesday with City Clerk Tatum by the Atlanta Negro Chamber of Commerce.

The paper, bearing signatures of 215 citizens, pointed out that several Southern cities, including San Antonio, Oklahoma City and Daytona Beach, have negro members of the police force, and suggested that the negro policemen, if appointed, be assigned to negro sections.

Atlanta, Ga. Georgian  
October 5, 1933

## Seek Negro Policeman In Colored Sections

Petition for employment of negro policemen to protect negro districts of Atlanta was filed Wednesday with J. Henson Tatum, city clerk, by the Atlanta Negro Chamber of Commerce.

The measure will go to council at its meeting October 16 for consideration.

The petition points out that about one-third of the population of Atlanta is composed of negroes, and that a substantial number are taxpayers.

It recites that many other southern cities have negro officers to police negro settlements, and points out that negroes in Atlanta are segregated into sections which would make such work simple and effective.

St. Louis, Daytona Beach, Knoxville, San Antonio and Oklahoma City are listed as cities where negro policemen are employed.

Atlanta, Ga. Georgian  
October 17, 1933

## Negro Police Plan On Council's File

Petition circulated by the Negro Chamber of Commerce requesting employment of negro police officers for duty in negro sections was filed without debate by Council at its Monday meeting.



Clarendon, Va. Chronicle  
Friday, March 24, 1933

## Negro Courage

Roscoe C. Johnston, a colored policeman in Chicago, attempted to arrest three white bandits, and as he entered the store they were robbing fell mortally wounded by a shower of bullets. As he sank to the floor he fired at a bandit the bullet striking the man and causing him to drop a bag containing a thousand dollars. This makes us think of the valor of the colored soldier at Ft. Wagner who siezed the colors from the hand of a falling comrade, and as he himself fell dying held up the flag and with his last breath cried out: "It never touched the ground."

The white people of the South know better than the people of the North the many noble qualities of the negro race, and while they are said to hate the negro as a race they still love the negro as an individual. The Southern General John B. Gordon in his Reminiscences of the Civil War speaks with admiration and deep affection of the devotion of the colored population of the South during the Civil War, and their loyalty to the families of the soldiers far away in the army, who but for the colored help at home would have had nobody to work their farms or to furnish their families with food.

John Goode, of Virginia, member of the confederate congress, in his Recollections of a Lifetime, pays an eloquent tribute to the negroes of the South during the Civil War, when the male white population was away in the Confederate army. Even when returning home, long after the emancipation proclamation, the confederate soldier found the colored help still where he had left them, engaged in tilling the land and looking after the welfare of the white families with that loyalty and affection that is so characteristic of the southern negro. There is no better evidence of the affection of the southern people for the negro than the songs of the South.

## NAME THREE RACE MEN FOR SOUTH PARK POLICE FORCE

### AMONG THOSE PRESENT



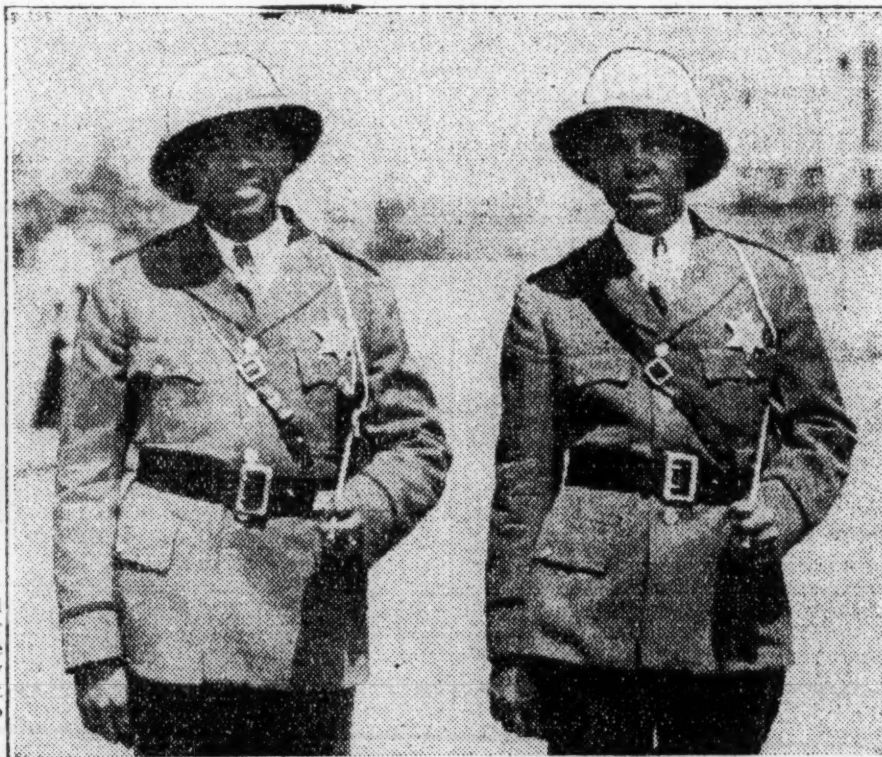
Azell Thomas



Wm. Kirkling

from the eligible civil service list of policemen for duty starting on May 1 on the World's Fair grounds. Superintendent Flynn stated to Edgar G. Brown, director of the Plan Beautiful and The Chicago Defender Dress-up for World's Fair campaign, that these Race policemen are exceptionally well qualified and he is confident they will be a great advantage to the South Park police service.

Those named are Durand Harding, 116 E. 60th St., a captain and staff officer in the Eighth Illinois regiment and holder of a U. S. distinguished service cross and a French Croix de Guerre; William Kirkling, 4932 Forrestville Ave., a postal clerk assigned to the mailing division at Stock Yards station and a graduate of Wendell Phillips high school, and Azell J. Thomas, 5939 Wabash Ave., who is an active worker in Democratic politics in the Fifth ward and in business with his wife.



*Defender 6-17-33*  
If you should enter the Century of Progress exposition grounds at the 31st St. gate you will see either one of these South Park policemen or both of them helping to maintain order. Clifford Phillips (left) and Azell Thomas are the officers here and they are on duty from 8 o'clock in the morning until 4 o'clock in the afternoon. They look quite spiffy in their uniforms of red coats, blue trousers and white helmets, and carrying blue batons.

Illinois



# MAYOR KELLY APPOINTS 3 RACE POLICEMEN FOR WORLD'S FAIR

*Defender 5-25-35 Chicago, Ill.*



When A Century of Progress exposition officially opens Saturday, May 27, three Race policemen will be among those seen on duty. Photo shows George T. Donoghue (seated), general superintendent of the South Park commission, representing Mayor Edward J. Kelly, president of the commission, following the certification of the first three Race policemen for the World's Fair. They were successful in passing the civil service examination. In the group are, left to right: Stanley Beckwith, Fzell

Thomas and Capt. Durand Harding, staff officer of the Eighth regiment, Illinois national guard, the three new policemen; Sergt. James Flavin, Capt. Timothy J. Howard, commanding officer of the South Park police; Committeeman Horace G. Lindheimer, representing his brother, Ben. F. ployment, Michael J. Flynn. The Chicago Defender has fought for Race representation on this force for the past ten years.

— Chicago Defender Photo.



## Detective Ace



JOHN BOLDEN

### JESSE SMITH NABBED ON WINDY CITY STREET; ADmits OLD GRUDGE

The murderer of Raleigh Grimes was apprehended this week in Chicago by John Bolden, ace of the Gary detective force. Bolden who has the uncanny ability of always getting his man, drove to Chicago on a hunch that his man was in hiding there. After divine the man, he had been evicted from an apartment house for some time and thinking that his man would not show, he spied him on a street corner. Quickly parking his car he strode up to Smith and placed him under arrest. He waved extradition and was returned to Gary with Officer Bolden. When questioned at the police station Smith told the officers that he had held a grudge against Grimes for a month or more, having been evicted from an apartment house for some time.

ment of Grimes at this time. He had worked off and on for nearly six months. He stated that on the Saturday that he killed Grimes they had quarreled over money and that he went home to 1537 Washington street and ate supper and put a potato knife in his pocket and came back to the barber shop from which he called Grimes and again quarreled with him. After being told by the barber shop proprietor to leave the place he called Grimes outside and further engaged in the quarrel at which time he claims that Grimes struck him and clinched with him. He in the clinch pulled the knife from his pocket and stabbed Grimes in the side and when he fell stabbed him about three times more.

When someone cried, catch him, he ran out his home by crossing lots and changed hats. After leaving home he visited 1715 Broadway and a pool room at 1741 Broadway. Then hiding out till twelve o'clock left for Chicago.

## OFFICER BOLDEN RESCUES SHERIFF HOLLEY'S BODY FROM LINE OF FIRE

When Mike Lantare barricaded himself in his house five miles southwest of Gary after having shot Roy Holley, Sheriff of Lake County and withstood the siege of deputy sheriffs and members of the Gary police department, it remained for John Bolden, the colored ace, of the Detective department of the police force to rescue the sheriff from the spot where he had lain for nearly two hours, after being shot and dragged from the house.

Bolden, one of the most fearless officers of the force, arrived at the scene of battle about 8 o'clock with officer Wardell Fields. He had been there but a few moments when he was informed that Holley was lying on the ground in the line of fire and ought to be moved. William Nelson, being near him at the time, volunteered to

help Bolden rescue the sheriff.

Lantare was shooting at any moving object and wasn't missing often and the job of moving the sheriff's body was a perilous one. Bolden and Nelson started and were able to get the body of the bullet laden sheriff to a blind side of the house where they were assisted by others to get him into the ambulance.

Up to that time no one had dared to venture into the house to take a shot at the madman within, tear gas bombs that had been thrown into the building seemed not to affect Lantare; the incessant fire from the machine guns was not proving effective. After a parley Bolden volunteered, and cautiously approached the door. Upon entering, he discovered that the arrangement of the stairs and Lantare's position made it almost certain death to ascend the stairs.

After repeated efforts to draw

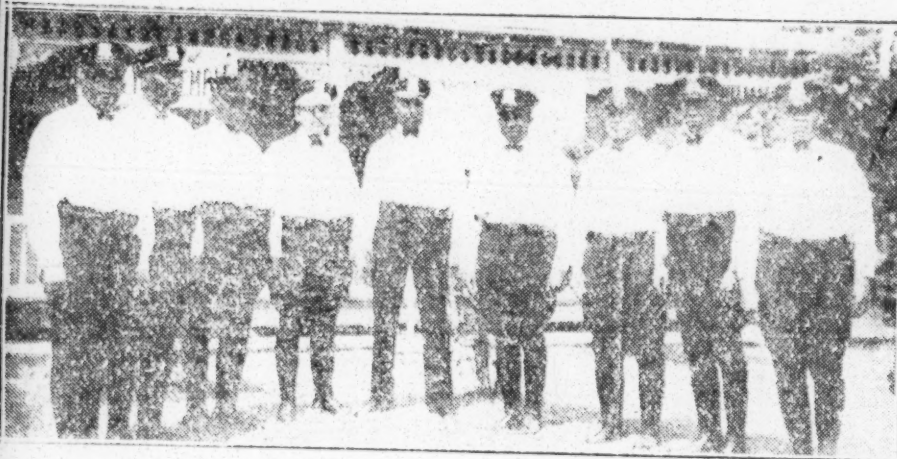
Lantare from his strategic position Bolden withdrew. When he reached the side of the house a loud explosion from the inside accompanied by a dull thud was heard. Bolden believes that this report and thud was the end of Lantare as he committed suicide by shooting himself thru the mouth with a revolver.

The building had been completely riddled by bullets, and was beginning to burn from a fire started by torches that had been applied by the Gary police. After no shots had come from the building for nearly half an hour a deputy sheriff from Hammond entered and found the body of Lantare slumped on the floor of the upstairs room. A dozen shots or more had entered his body. Wm. Baetner, whom Lantare shot over falling a tree that he believed to be his died instantly.

The deputy sheriff who was shot while trying to drag his chief's body from where it had fallen was rushed to a Gary hospital along with Bogardus Oppie Cross and Harris, all seriously injured.



## City Police Most Courteous, Say Visitors



This is the special detail of the city police that was stationed by Chief of Police Morrissey at Elk headquarters, 738 Indiana Ave. during "Elk" week. The officers are reading from left to right: Heater, Brown, Hopson, Holt, Capt. George Sneed (in charge), Sgt. Bennett, Wilson, Jones and Grandison. Leading Elk officials and numerous visitors have highly commended "our boys" for their courtesy and efficiency in their handling of the crowds.

Indianapolis boasts a group of colored police officers whose records stack up with the best of 'em to be found anywhere. Claude White, who is not in the above group, was lieutenant.

## "IN SHAKEUP"



Patrolman Ferdinand Holt,

below of the Indianapolis police force has been promoted to the rank of detective sergeant, replacing Roy Kennedy. (above) recently reduced to patrolman from the rank of detective. It was announced Tuesday by the board of public safety. The changes were scheduled to become effective September 1st.

**HIGH HONORS  
ARE PAID TO  
JOHN BOLDEN**

By HENRY BROWN  
(Staff Correspondent)

GARY, Ind., Sept. 15.—Thousands of members of both races bowed their heads in respect to Detective John Bolden, for 15 years on the Gary police force, as his body was

taken from the First Baptist church Wednesday morning after last rites had been held. Rev. Charles E. Hawkins, pastor, officiated.

Detective Bolden, who had won a reputation of fearlessness and extraordinary courage, died Saturday in St. John's hospital following an attack of acute indigestion. He was 54 years old.

### 10,000 View Body

His faithful services as a police officer in many noted cases, occasioned him a wide and broad acquaintance so much so that over 10,000 persons passed his bier as it lay in state at Smith's funeral home.

When Detective Bolden's body was removed to his home at 2548 Taylor St., added thousands paid their tribute of respect.

Detective Bolden was regarded by his commanding officers as one of the most efficient detectives on the force and had been entrusted with the ferreting out of many important crimes.

### Solved Noted Cases

One of the most noted cases was known as the ax murder mystery, which he solved and captured Ulysses Mack, who was later convicted and executed. He was often commended for his uncanny ability to solve intricate crimes.

In 1929 Detective Bolden, through his astute detective work, located the body of Paul Perconti, racketeer and bootlegger, which had been hidden in a cement vault in a lonely spot beneath a Porter county farm house. He solved this mystery after some of the best officers of Lake county had failed.

### Was Brave Man

Detective Bolden was the first to reach the body of Sheriff Holly, shot down by a crazed mad man. He rescued Holly, while under the blazing fire of a maniac's gun. Police Chief Stanley Bucklin, said of him at the funeral services, "He was one of the best officers I had the pleasure to know." His expression, indicated that he was vividly affected by Bolden's death.

The dead martyr is survived by a widow, Mrs. Lizzie Bolden; two sons, Lon and John Jr.; two daughters, Mrs. Bessie and Lillian O'Neal; four brothers, Lee, Columbus, John and James; two sisters, Mrs. Patricia McGhee and Mrs. Media Oster; two grandchildren, Lonnie Bolden Jr. and Betty Jane Bolden.



## THE CIVIL SERVICE COM- MISSION

*Bystander*  
The readers of the *Bystander* and hundreds of Des Moines citizens gladly accept action of the Civil Service Commission when it disposed of the complaint filed against Patrolman McGuire that he was beyond the civil service age.

When McGuire volunteered for World War service he put his age up two years—a thing thousands of others did. On the application for the civil service examination he gave his true age. Just how this discrepancy in age was brought to the attention of the pension board is not clear, but suffice it to say, somebody has been unusually interested in a lot of uncalled for snooping.

However, McGuire's mother filed an affidavit stating his true age and in its decision passing on the complaint the commission said:

"After investigation the board has decided to accept as final the birth date shown by Patrolman McGuire in his civil service application, which is verified by his mother's affidavit".

Few Negroes complain when they get what they make. But it is not always possible to get a body to do this. In the past the colored people of Des Moines had a lot of trouble getting an impartial Civil Service Commission with the courage to make and stand by a fair decision without regard to who is involved. Fortunately, we have such a commission at this time and the citizens of Des Moines, white and black, will appreciate them.



# KANSAS POLICE LEAVENWORTH GETS TWO NEW NEGRO POLICEMEN

Defender  
ACE SUCCUMBS;  
3-18-33  
ILL 3 MONTHS

ATCHISON, Kans., March 17.—Frank Wilson, a prominent resident here for 53 years, a retired policeman with 36 years active service and the first officer of the law of either race to be retired in the state of Kansas, passed away at his home, 1033 S. Sixth St., last Friday after an illness of three months.

Mr. Wilson was an expert marksman and rated as the best pistol shot in Kansas but so great was his power of persuasion and friendliness that it is said in all his years on the police force he never had to draw his gun to make an arrest. He was fearless, however, and had brought many notorious characters into custody.

He belonged to the Prince Hall Masonic lodge and was a member of Campbell Chapel A. M. E. church. The funeral was held Monday from that church, the Rev. J. N. Goddard officiating. The active pallbearers, members of the Atchison police force, were Lloyd and George Kerford, Len Richey, Fred Smith, Ed Winrow and Roy Harper.

Mr. Wilson is survived by three children, Mrs. Camille Briggs of Atchison, nationally known club woman and treasurer of the Central Association of Race women and state president of the Kansas federation; Mrs. Ethel Taylor, Chicago, and Allen Wilson, Kansas City, Kans.; two brothers, Rev. Joseph B. Wilson and Henry Wilson, both of Bogue, Kans., and two grandchildren, Virgil Wilson, Tacoma, Wash., and Wilson Briggs, Atchison.

2000 PAY TRIBUTE  
AT FUNERAL OF  
TOPEKA JAILER

12-8-33

Approximately 2,000 Topekans went to the Shiloh Baptist Church Saturday afternoon to pay tribute to the

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., April 20—(ANP)—Announcement was made here Wednesday by the new administration, which rode to victory in the recent city election, that two Negro policemen had been selected for positions on the Leavenworth force. The two names announced were Floyd Williams and Richard Walker Jr., the former having had previous service, while this is Walker's first time. Hon. J. H. "Jack" Miller, newly-elected mayor, made the selections and appointments. Two Negro policemen were appointed during the past year, but both were slain soon after appointment.

Rev. Benjamin J. Davidson, county jailer, who gave his life Tuesday night to stop an attempted jail break. Hundreds unable to get in the church remained on the church lawn until the services were over.

Senator Arthur Capper, Lester M. Goodell, county attorney, and others joined in paying glowing tribute to the Rev. Mr. Davidson's heroism and his devotion to duty.

"I came here to pay tribute to Benjamin J. Davidson, whom I have known and respected for many years as a loyal and useful citizen," Senator Capper said. "He died as he lived, an inspiring example of the best traditions of his race and of American citizenship. Topeka is proud of his fidelity, his devotion to duty, his undying courage. The body of Benjamin Davidson is to be interred today; his courage and devotion live as an inspiration to every one of us. I am proud to pay this humble tribute to a gallant soul that has passed on."

The Rev. C. A. Lugh, of Shiloh Baptist Church, acted as master of ceremonies and music was furnished by the Church of God choir. Solos were sung by Mrs. G. S. Sayles, Mrs. Isabel Walker and Mrs. Mary Fisher. The Rev. M. J. Burton of the Second Baptist Church delivered the ritual and Mrs. Emma Gaines gave a prayer. Rev. G. S. Sayles of the Antioch Baptist Church, Mrs. Lela Suddeth and the Rev. Hodison of the Church of God gave addresses. Condolences were read by Mrs. Vera Irving and Mrs. Mattie L. McIntosh read a sketch of the Rev. Davidson's life and the Rev. J. B. Almond, pastor of the Church of God in Kansas City, delivered the sermon.

Sheriff Dean Rogers, his force of deputies, a large squad of police officers headed by Chief Aurice Leonard and a number of firemen headed by Lieut. J. W. Thompson attended the services.

Mount Moriah Lodge No. 5 conducted the burial services in Mount Auburn cemetery.

## Loyalty

Kansas is indebted to a Negro, named Davidson, an employe of the Topeka jail, last week, who gave his life that law might be upheld in that state, and that a prisoner might not escape. The call came to him quickly, for the great test. His courage did not falter. His loyalty did not flicker. The color of his skin made no difference in the high character of his manhood. He was just an ordinary Negro. He had no great advantage nor more training than the average Negro in Kansas, but when the crisis came he was there.

In these matters of courage and loyalty there is no race or breed. Yet after all courageous loyalty is one of the finest of human virtues. The man who is not a coward or a sneak when his endeavors are well directed is always one of God's noblemen. This Negro thought quickly and thought straight, and then acted as became a man. He had such stuff as heroes are made of. He was one.

Kansas is indebted to him. Kansas should be proud of his memory. His race should hold up their heads and say, "We are of his blood; give us a chance and we shall prove it."

## An Act Of Heroism

### By A Kansas Jailer

When he was given the job as night guard at the Shawnee County Jail in Kansas, Benjamin J. Davidson, a Negro, told his superiors, "A prisoner will kill me before he gets away." Tuesday night Davidson had an opportunity to keep his word.

It happened that a desperate prisoner, convicted as a bank and postoffice robber, was locked in the Shawnee County Jail. His name was Cecil Thornburgh. According to The Associated Press dispatch, "Thornburgh slugged the jailer in a room in which he and other prisoners

were confined, free of their cells. The two battled for possession of Davidson's pistol in his holster, Davidson fighting desperately though stunned. The desperado wrested the pistol from Davidson and fired three times, two shots entering the Negro's chest."

But the jailer, though he was 53 years old, did not forget the promise he had made. After shouting for help, he grappled with the prisoner and finally was able to toss him down a row of steps. Running to the scene, relief officers found Davidson, stunned and fatally wounded, lying across the unconscious body of Thornburgh. The jailer died on the way to a hospital, and the prisoner was carried to the state penitentiary at Lansing for safe keeping.

Just now, when one hears so many instances of lack of courage on the part of officials entrusted with the care of prisoners, the story of Benjamin J. Davidson should not go unrecorded. In various states, there have been recent horrible lynchings which might have been prevented if all the persons entrusted with a legal duty in each of the cases had carried through their obligations as thoroughly as did this humble jailer in Kansas.

It is true that Kansas episode cannot be compared exactly with the lynching cases in other states. The Shawnee County jailer was faced with the problem of preventing an escape. In the other three instances, the problem was that of protecting a prisoner from persons determined to defeat the regular course of justice. But the similarity emerges in the fact that officers of the law are under an obligation to see that prisoners in their care are safely presented for trial in the regular courts.

Perhaps it would not have been necessary for Davidson to have gone to the extreme of sacrificing his life in preventing the escape of Thornburgh. Not many jailers would have gone that far. But there is an undeniable inspiration in his heroic fight to maintain the integrity of the law.



## Putting Cops on the Police Force

"This is the newspaper that is trying to put colored men on the police force," said a police official last week when he picked up the *AFRO-AMERICAN*.

The *AFRO-AMERICAN* is not trying to do any such thing, for the reason that the *AFRO* cannot put anyone on the police force.

What we are doing, and we make no bones about it, is to call attention of the people of this community to the police situation.

We are telling them that the public officials, whom they elected, are robbing them. We are printing the salary lists showing 1,500 whites and no Negroes on the police force; \$4,000,000 of public funds collected from all the people in taxes and paid in salaries to whites only.

We seek to awaken the City of Baltimore, colored and white, to this tyrannical misrepresentation and highway robbery.

So far, we have printed the city salary lists of the police department, the fire department, and the city library system. We expect to print salary lists of other departments.

And when the people of Baltimore, who have been hoodwinked for many years, wake up to the manner in which public officials are now betraying them, they, not the *AFRO*, will take some action about it. They will see that they get representation or get new public officials.

Here's a Philly Cop with 20 Years' Service



JAMES DEBMAN

1443 Fawn Street, attached to 18th district. He recently completed 20 years of continuous service. He has been commended several times for bravery. On August 25, 1923, he was awarded a gold medal from the Civic Safety Fund for distinguished service.

Baltimoreans can ask themselves

## N. Y. DETECTIVE TO AID BALTO. POLICE FIGHT

Lieut. Battles to Tell of Records of Colored Police Officers.

## CITY FORUM TO HOLD CIVIC NITE

Gaither, Governor and Mayor to be Invited.

Baltimore's fight to land colored policemen and firemen on the local forces, took on new impetus this week when Detective Lieutenant Jesse Battles of New York, consented to come to the city to participate in a monster mass meeting to be staged in the near future.

Lieutenant Battles, who is the ranking colored officer of New York's finest, holds a brilliant record of service that covers a period of thirty years, during which time he has risen steadily from a patrolman to his present position. He will relate for the benefit of aspiring Baltimore youth, some of his experiences on the force in the toughest section of Harlem and Hell's Kitchen and tell how his running mate was slain in a hand-to-hand encounter with a desperado in a dingy Harlem tenement. He will endeavor to prove for the benefit of Baltimore authorities that colored men can acquit themselves heroically as minions of the law.

Lieutenant Battles gave his promise to come to the city, to Ralph Matthews, city editor of the *AFRO-AMERICAN*, in a special conference in New York, Sunday. Other leading figures on the forces of other cities will be induced to come to the city from time to time to help arouse public sentiment to break down the discrimination now existing in Baltimore's municipal government.

102 Applicants

Through a campaign waged by the *AFRO-AMERICAN*, 102 applicants will take the police examination this year as against a maximum of five in previous years.

Following a conference with Miss Juanita Jackson, president of the City-Wide Young People's Forum, it was arranged that Lieutenant Battles will make his appearance on a special civic program staged under the auspices of that organization, to which both General Charles E. Gaither, commissioner of police; Mayor Howard W. Jackson and Gov. Albert C. Ritchie will be invited. Efforts are not being formulated to have a representative of Washington's crack fire department speak at the same time on behalf of colored firefighters.

LeRoy Clay, a first lieutenant in the First Separate Company, Maryland National Guard; and Levi Jolley, both of the *AFRO* reportorial staff, have already taken the fireman's examination and will in all probability apply for the police tests.





two strings of five, in 15 seconds.  
During his career on the police force of the City of Everett, Officer Taylor has taken part in several thrilling arrests. On one occasion he captured single handed a gunman who had fired on an Everett policeman; then again there was the occasion when he assisted in the capture of the notorious Latriori who had shot and killed two Boston policemen.

*Boston, Mass.*  
*Guardian*

PATROLMAN GARDINER  
One of our Cambridge, Mass.  
Policemen.

# ELECTED HEAD OF POLICE AID

*Chronicle*  
Harry Taylor, Crack Pistol  
Shot, Honored by Everett  
Colleagues  
2-11-33

Officer Harry J. Taylor of the Everett Police Department was elected President of the Everett Police Mutual Aid Association. He is succeeding the late Chief of Police Harold J. Donahue, who died suddenly a few months ago.

*Boston, Mass.*  
Officer Taylor is the champion pistol shot of the Everett police department and recently finished the regular police course during which he made a score of 296 out of 300. He is the captain of the police pistol team.

He has been on the police force for fifteen years, and has lived in Everett for twenty-five years. He is a native of New Bedford.

Mr. Taylor is married and resides on Prescott street with his family. Through the medium of the Chronicle the doughty policeman is issuing a challenge for the regular pistol course: 10 shots, slow fire, 2 strings of five in 30 seconds; and ten shots,



## TWO DETECTIVES

## SOLVE CRIME

## IN TEN DAYS

## Detroit's Black Cops

## Show Mettle in Hold-

## up Case.

## GANG OF THREE

## IS ROUNDED UP

## Poolroom Tours Yield

## the Clues.

DETROIT, Mich.—Solution of one of Detroit's major crimes less than ten days after it happened, caused the commissioner of police to praise the work of Sergeant of Detectives Rex Smith and his partner, Detective George Rutherford.

The two detectives had three bandits in custody exactly eight days after they had killed the sales manager of the Ward Bakery Company in an attempted hold-up. The thugs fled without leaving any clues.

Detectives Smith and Rutherford began combing the Hasting Street pool rooms immediately after the killing. Three days later they arrested Sanders Gist, 29, 3527 Hasting Street. Shortly after his arrest Gist confessed, police said, and implicated William Clements, 20, 3724 St. Antoine Street, and Michael (Tex) Henderson, white, who had been arrested the day before, but was released.

### Admits Crime

Clements was arrested Thursday by the two officers and has admitted firing the shots which snuffed out the life of Edward Sahr, white, sales manager for the company.

The detectives declare that Gist said that Henderson, the white man, had drawn the maps showing the layout of the Ward bakery and had sent the men there with definite assignments. Gist, who was known as a sprinter, was to strike

the guard with a blackjack, seize the bag containing the \$2,000 and run. Clements, armed with a gun was to cover the retreat.

### Sahr Appears

The confessor said that the robbery might have gone without a hitch if Sahr had not appeared and frustrated the plans. Clements shot the sales manager through the head and wounded a guard of an armored truck sent to collect the money. Police declare that sketches of the bakery were found in Henderson's room.

Detectives Smith and Rutherford are attached to the Canfield station. They have been cited for meritorious work in the line of duty several times. They are considered a crack pair in the fight against crime.

## DIAMOND BADGE

## FOR BLACK COP

DETROIT—Former Lieutenant of Detectives Daniel Smith, was presented a diamond studded badge and a 21-jeweled Howard watch by fellow officers, last week. The presentation was made by Superintendent of Police John P. Smith.

Mr. Smith, who was a member of the special investigation squad, resigned from the force June 1, 1932, after more than 31 years of service. He was the first detective, the first to be made sergeant of detectives, and the first to become a lieutenant.

In making the presentation, the superintendent praised the efficiency of the former lieutenant's work while a member of the Metropolitan Police Department.

The watch was a gift from fellow-officers while the badge was from friends.

## Black Cops

Two smart black Detroit police detectives solved a holdup and mystery murder case in ten days and landed their prisoners in the lock-up.

Another black policeman in New York was recently awarded one of the year's \$100 prizes for heroic service.

And while these things are happening in broad daylight, ancient police commissioners, like those in Baltimore (General Charles D. Gaither) and Richmond, Va., are declaiming why Negroes are not fit to serve as patrolmen.

These police commissioners are not ticked, but with old age has come ultra conservatism. They should be retired and more youthful and cosmopolitan men put in their places.



# Firemen to Honor *Defender* 1-14-33 Champion of Race *Chicago, Ill.*

ST. PAUL, Minn., Jan. 13.—Members of the Race fire company here have planned a memorial for Wednesday, Jan. 18, when tribute will be paid to the late Thomas H. Lyles, well-known civic and fraternal leader and pioneer citizen.

"Tom" Lyles, as he was familiarly known, founded engine company No. 9 at Edmund and Marion Sts. in the fall of 1885. Mr. Lyles also had the first Race man here appointed on the St. Paul police force.

The memorial exercises will be held at 8 p. m. in Pioneer hall, 588 Rondo St., and Jose H. Sherwood, worthy past grand master of the Masonic order, jurisdiction of Minnesota, will deliver the memorial address.

In planning the program honoring Mr. Lyles, Race firemen here feel that they are performing their duty and that in paying tribute to the far-sighted Race man who made the fire company possible they not only do themselves honor but perform a duty to the living in honoring the dead.

After the program of speeches, music and other numbers, a buffet luncheon will be served. The memorial committee is composed of Nathaniel A. Evans, chairman; A. B. White, secretary; S. F. Lewis, treasurer; Captain H. C. Jones and Lionel West.



Police and Firemen - 1933

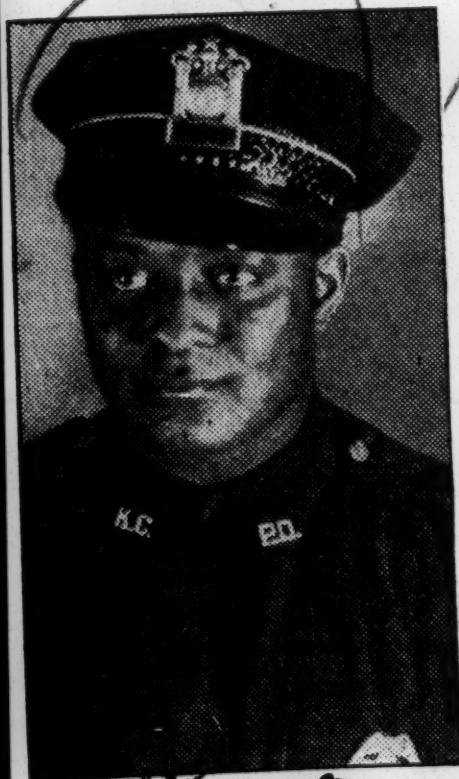
Missouri

## Eventually, Why Not Now? Here Are City Firemen Way Down in Kansas City, Mo.



Here are the boys of Engine Company No. 11, of Kansas City, Mo. Their engine house is on Vine Street, and has just been completed at a cost of \$25,000. This is news for Mayor Jackson of Baltimore. The new Kansas City fire house was erected for these boys by a Democratic administration. If Mayor Jackson will support the movement, Baltimore can have colored firemen in the next six months—and why not, Mr. Mayor?

### Dead Shot



*Call*  
**LEHMAN WALKER**

Who made a record of 100 out of 100 at pistol practice Wednesday, May 17. He has served six months on the Kansas City police force.

### Fire Captain and Lieutenant



Walter Hill, left, and Lorenza Graham, right, veterans of the St. Louis fire department, who were promoted this week by Mayor Dickmann. Graham was promoted to captaincy at an annual salary of \$2,500 and Hill to a lieutenantcy at a yearly salary of \$2,280. Graham's

promotion makes the fire department have two Negro captains for the first time, the other being Captain Claude Johnson. Both Hill and Graham are stationed at Engine House No. 28 which has 16 colored firemen.

—Cooperative Publishers Photo.



## OFFICER BESTS BAD MAN IN DUEL



**OFFICER CLARENCE LEE**

"He is one of the best police-men of my district, barring none tridges.

—he is brave, never shirks his duties as an officer and gentleman."

Thus spoke Capt. Lepker of the Eighth District to an Argus reporter in praising the record of Patrolman Clarence Lee, veteran of bravery of his 22 years' service. Officer Lee lives at 3409 Market street.

last Tuesday morning, Patrolman Lee had just shot it out with a young "bad man" with a penitentiary record and wounded him in the leg, leading to his capture. The prisoner had started out with an automatic loaded with nine shells, apparently to "kill out" the members of a family with whom he had had trouble.

Patrolman Thomas Smith, Lee's walking partner (another veteran of the force) nabbed the wounded desperado in the rear of 2914 Walnut shortly after the shooting. At City Hospital No. 2 he was found to be shot in the right leg and gave his name as Jesse Franklin, alias Clarence Hall, 23 years old, of 2735 Lucas, a two-time ex-convict.

### Was After Girl

The youth was said to have threatened the mother and stepfather of 15-year-old Media Montgomery, attractive 2-year-old waitress, because they refused to allow her to live with him. He had been keeping company with her for about 6 months, but she was said to have feared him because

he had at one time cut and seriously wounded a woman with whom he associated.

About 8:10 a. m. Monday Mrs. Juanita Bennett, mother, complained at the 8th District Station that Franklin, who had threatened to get the family had been loitering about their house at 2619 Walnut. Officer Lee started to the woman's home with her, and, while on the way he observed Franklin in the alley in the rear of 2634 Market street. He saw the officer and ran through a hallway at 2625 Walnut street, then west on Walnut followed by Officer Lee. When in a yard at 2615 Walnut he wheeled and fired three shots at his pursuer, none of which took effect. The officer then drew his gun and commanded Franklin to drop his, which he refused to do and ran. Lee fired three shots at Franklin and, when they were both in the alley back of Walnut, Franklin fired another shot at the officer, who returned one shot as Franklin fled north on Beaumont street and to Market, dropping his gun as he ran. The .32 automatic still



## Race Firemen

*Reporter*  
**Hurt in Big**

*1-28-33*  
**Omaha Fire**

*Chicago*

OMAHA, Nebr., Jan. 27.—Friday the 13th proved to be a bad day for the Browning, King Clothing company and 18 others, of whom one was killed and the others overcome by gas or otherwise injured in the \$450,000 fire which wrecked the building and destroyed the entire stock.

Battalion Chief H. Howes is dead and 12 other white firemen and four Race firemen were overcome or injured.

The Race firemen are Junior Captain Alonzo Jackson, company No. 4, overcome; Manuel Cook of No. 4, overcome and given emergency treatment; Harry Speece, No. 4, overcome and taken to hospital, and Robert Green, No. 4, broken finger, scorched hands and face.

Christopher Pinkston, porter at the store, was burned on the arm and face and was dragged from the ruins by another porter, Oliver Patterson. The latest report comes that Captain Deitz is in a critical condition.



# Deputy Sheriff Appointed In Atlantic City

## Wm. O. Hursey Takes Office As First Negro At Seashore

### Accused Policeman Restored To Force

By CLARENCE MOTLEY  
OCEAN CITY, N. J.,—(Special)—  
Officer Harris, lone Negro member of the police force in this city, was restored to duty after having stood trial before Mayor Headley acting as judge, when charges of neglect of duty were brought against him by the chief of police.  
Attorney Isaac Nutter of Atlantic City was retained as counsel for the dismissed officer.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., May—William O. Hursey of Atlantic City enjoys the distinction of being the first Negro Deputy Sheriff in the State of New Jersey.

Mr. Hursey, a native of Baltimore, came to the shore in 1900 and has played an active part in the politics of both the state and county for the past thirty years. Prior to this appointment he was assistant secretary of the president of the State Senate, Hon. Emerson L. Richards.

Other political appointments that Mr. Hursey has filled are Inspector of Street Construction and Foreman of the Street Cleaning and Rubbish Collection.

That he has been a dauntless worker in securing a representative of our group in the various city departments is evidenced by his securing the appointment of Miss Edna Aiken as clerk in the Electrical Bureau of the Department of Public Safety. Miss Aiken is the first colored girl to hold a position as clerk in a municipal department. He was also the leading figure in securing the appointment of Miss Blondell Weaver as clerk in the Atlantic County Republican Headquarters. Mr. Hursey played a prominent part in the fight which resulted in the establishment of two colored fire companies in this city.

#### LEADING POLITICIANS PRESENT

Mr. Hursey was inducted into office in the City Commission Chamber last Wednesday when leading politicians of both races were present. In this number were Hon. Harry Bacharach, Mayor; Hon. Enoch L. Johnson, County Treasurer; Hon. Emerson L. Richards, pres. of the State Senate; Hon. Anthony Siracusa, Assemblyman; Bertram E. Whitman, City Clerk; Alfred Johnson, Sheriff; Wm. A. Blair, County Clerk, and Commissioners Joseph Paxon and William Cuthbert, and a score of his staunch Negro supporters, who presented him with many magnificent floral bouquets.



DETECTIVE NOW

NOW LECTURER

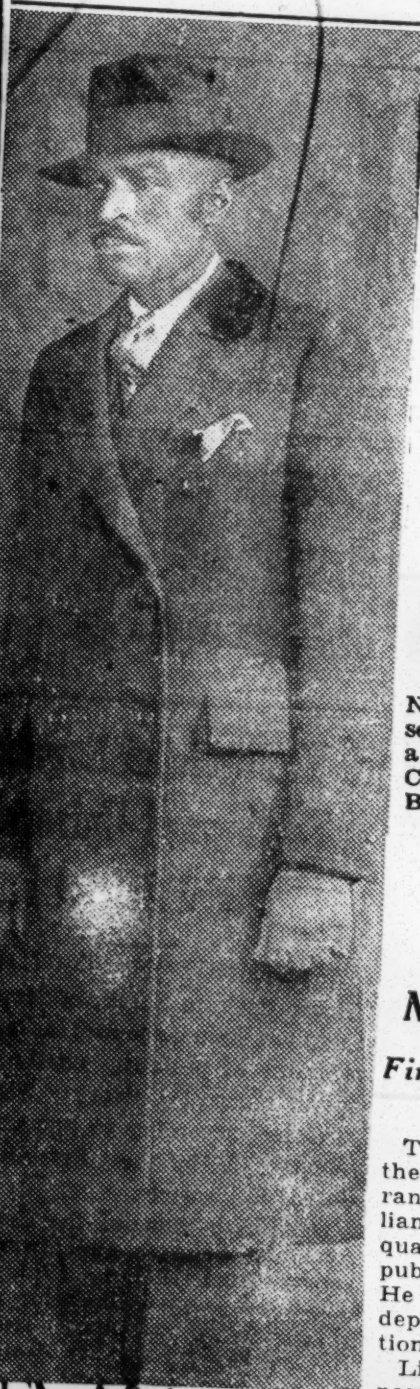


Patman GEORGE E. BOOKER of the West 135th Street Police Station who was made a detective last week and assigned to duty in the West 123rd Street Precinct.

APPOINT ITHACA MAN AS DEPUTY SHERIFF

ITHACA, N. Y., Jan. 19. C. Jones, who has been a resident of this city for 18 years, was recently appointed deputy sheriff of Tompkins county by the newly elected sheriff, Frank C. Ellis.

IN LINE FOR CAPTAIN



Coming to Balto.



LEUT. S. J. BATTLES, New York detective who has consented to be one of the speakers at a public forum designed to educate Commissioner Gatcher and other Baltimore officials concerning the value of colored policemen.

NEW YORK SUN

AUG 25 1933 NEGRO WINS RATING

Fire Lieutenant Qualifies for Captain's List.

The only Negro in the history of the Fire Department to achieve the rank of lieutenant, Wesley Williams, commander of Engine 55, has qualified in the ratings just made public for promotion to a captaincy. He is one of thirty members of the department to be rated for promotion.

Lieut. Williams entered the department fourteen years ago. He is an unusually sturdy man and, in the history of the force, only the second to pass the physical examination with a rating of perfect. The other was Soldier Kearns, who once boxed against Jess Willard. Born and raised in New York, Williams is raising a family that includes a son, Charles Russell, 15 years old, who wants to duplicate his father's record, but in the Police Department. An older son, James, is going to study dentistry. Lieut. Williams's grandfather, John W., now 90 years old, a former slave, lives in New York.

STANDARD UNION

AUG 26 1933

WILLIAMS FIRST COLORED CAPTAIN

Fire Lieutenant on New List, Was Champion Boxer in F. D.

Wesley Williams, the city's only negro fire lieutenant, and incidentally, the first in the department's history, will be the first colored fire captain. Two days ago his name was listed among the 30 lieutenants who have passed the examination for promotion to captain. He is one of four negroes in the department.

Along the walls of his quarters in the firehouse are perhaps 100 books, most of them of the "outline" type—"Outline of History," "Outline of Science" and similar titles—and a number of fire department textbooks, most of them by James W. Hoffernan, Deputy Fire Chief and the department pedagogue.

Lieut. Williams attributes his rise from the ranks to his studies. He has graduated from an elementary school in Harlem; no schooling beyond that. But he read a lot.

Williams is 5 feet 9 inches in height and extremely broad at the shoulders. He is one of the two men in department history who passed the physical examination with a perfect rating. The other is Soldier Kearns, former pugilist and opponent of Jess Willard.

Williams is a New York product. His father is "Jim" Williams, chief of the Grand Central redcaps.

Lieut. Williams has been married 19 years and lives with his family at 3542 Webster ave., in the Bronx. James H., his 17-year-old son, will finish at De Witt Clinton H. S. next term; he wants to be a dentist. Charles Russell Williams, 15, is at Evander Childs; he hopes to be a policeman. The youngest

child, Margaret, will enter Evander Childs next fall.

The lieutenant does not smoke, drink or chew. He cooks for a pastime. He was heavyweight champion of the Fire Department for seven years.

He has been commended for several rescues. In February his company won a Class A rating for efficiency for the rescue of 20 persons trapped on an ornamental balcony.

When his 20 years are up, in 1939, he will quit the service though he loves it, to satisfy an eagerness to see far places. He has been out of town only once in his lifetime, a hunting trip to Canada. Before he quits, however, he hopes to be a battalion chief.

NEW YORK TIMES

AUG 25 1933

NEGRO QUALIFIES AS FIRE CAPTAIN

Wesley Williams, Only One of Race to Be Lieutenant, Passes Examinations.

RISE LAID TO HARD STUDY

Great Reader but Found Time to Become the Department's Heavyweight Champion.

Wesley Williams has been the city's only Negro fire lieutenant since 1927 and, incidentally, the first in the department's history. Two days ago his name was listed among the thirty lieutenants who have passed the examination for promotion to Captain. He is one of four Negroes in the department.

A modest man is Wesley Williams, and a quiet, studious one. When interviewed yesterday in the old firehouse at 363 Broome Street, where he commands Engine 55 and where he has department fourteen years ago, he made light of his new honors. Along the walls of his quarters in the firehouse are perhaps 100 books, most of them of the "outline" type—"Outline of History," "Outline of Science" and similar titles—and a number of Fire Department textbooks, most of them by James W. Hoffernan, deputy fire chief and the department pedagogue.

Lieutenant Williams attributes his rise from the ranks to his studies. He was deep in one of Hoffernan's works when the interviewers entered. He put the book down, and in answer to questions, traced his career. He was graduated from an elementary school in Harlem; no schooling beyond that. But he read a lot.

West is a New York product married nineteen years and lives with his family at 3542 Webster Avenue in the Bronx. James H., his 17-year-old son, will finish at De Witt Clinton High School next term; he wants to be a dentist. John Charles Russell Williams, 15, is at Evander Childs; he hopes to be a policeman. The youngest child, Margaret, will enter Evander Childs next fall.

The lieutenant does not smoke, drink or chew. He cooks for a pastime. He was heavyweight champion of the Fire Department for seven years. He has been commended for several rescues. In February his company won a Class A rating for efficiency for the rescue of 20 persons trapped on an ornamental balcony. When his 20 years are up, in 1939, he will quit the service though he loves it, to satisfy an eagerness to see far places. He has been out of town only once in his lifetime, a hunting trip to Canada. Before he quits, however, he hopes to be a battalion chief. Wesley Williams, the city's only negro fire lieutenant, and incidentally, the first in the department's history, will be the first colored fire captain. Two days ago his name was listed among the 30 lieutenants who have passed the examination for promotion to captain. He is one of four negroes in the department. Along the walls of his quarters in the firehouse are perhaps 100 books, most of them of the "outline" type—"Outline of History," "Outline of Science" and similar titles—and a number of fire department textbooks, most of them by James W. Hoffernan, Deputy Fire Chief and the department pedagogue. Lieut. Williams has been married 19 years and lives with his family at 3542 Webster ave., in the Bronx. James H., his 17-year-old son, will finish at De Witt Clinton H. S. next term; he wants to be a dentist. Charles Russell Williams, 15, is at Evander Childs; he hopes to be a policeman. The youngest child, Margaret, will enter Evander Childs next fall. The lieutenant does not smoke, drink or chew. He cooks for a pastime. He was heavyweight champion of the Fire Department for seven years. He has been commended for several rescues. In February his company won a Class A rating for efficiency for the rescue of 20 persons trapped on an ornamental balcony. When his 20 years are up, in 1939, he will quit the service though he loves it, to satisfy an eagerness to see far places. He has been out of town only once in his lifetime, a hunting trip to Canada. Before he quits, however, he hopes to be a battalion chief.

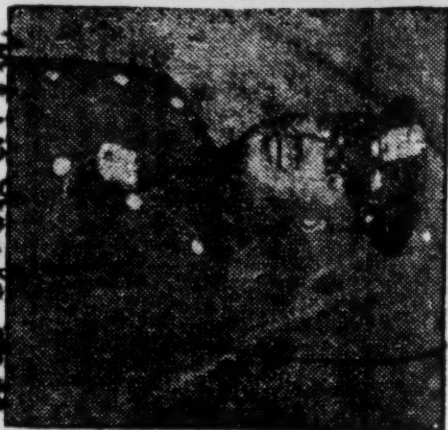


Lieut. WESLEY WILLIAMS of the New York Fire Department, who recently passed the Civil Service examination for captain, with a rating of 83.07 per cent. He is No. 50 on the list of 157 for the promotion.

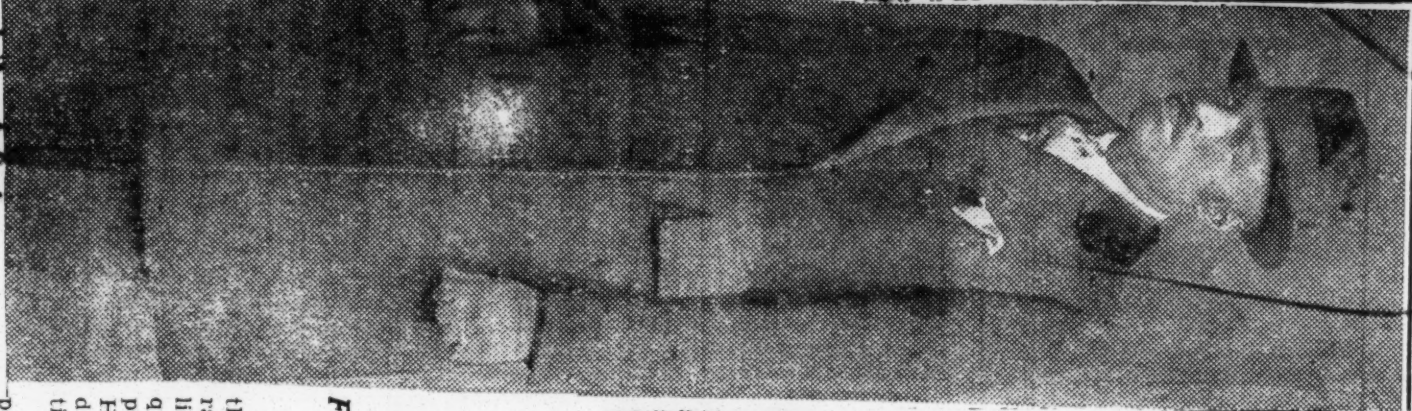
Patrolman ALLEN J. BENTON who since March, 1932, has been assigned to bring about a better observation of the Sanitary Code and Corporation Ordinances in Harlem has been lecturing on door cleanliness to the boys and girls of the public and parochial schools of the 32nd Precinct. Patrolman Benton also wrote a column on the activities of the police in The New York Age, and also for the police magazine "Spring 3100."



**NOW LECTURER**



APPOINT ITHACA MAN  
AS DEPUTY SHERIFF  
ITHACA, N. Y., Jan. 19.—C. Jones,  
who has been a resident of this city  
for six years, was recently appoint-  
ed deputy sheriff of Tompkins coun-  
ty by the newly elected sheriff,  
Frank C. Ellis.  
IN LINE FOR CAPTAIN



# STANDARD UNION

AUG 26 1933

# WILLIAMS' FIRST

COLORED CAPTAIN

**Fire Lieutenant on New List,  
Was Champion Boxer**

in F. D.

Wesley Williams, the city's only negro fire lieutenant, and incidentally, the first in the department's history, will be the first colored fire captain. Two days ago his name was listed among the 30 Commissioner Gardner and other lieutenants, who have passed the examination for promotion to captain. He is one of four negroes in the department.

## NEW YORK SUN

# AS FIRE CAPTAIN

---

Wesley Williams, Only One of  
Race to Be Lieutenant,  
Passes Examinations.

---

AUG 25 1933  
NEGRO QUALITIES  
AS FIRE CAPTAIN

**esley Williams, Only One  
Race to Be Lieutenant,  
Passes Examinations.**

AUG 25 1935  
NEGRO WINS RATING

**Fire Lieutenant Qualifies for Captain's List.**

The only Negro in the history of the Fire Department to achieve the rank of lieutenant, Wesley Williams, commander of Engine 55, has qualified in the ratings just made public for promotion to a captaincy. He is one of thirty members of the department to be rated for promotion.

Lieut. Williams attributes his rise from the ranks to his studies. He has graduated from an elementary school in Harlem; no schooling beyond that. But he read a lot.

Williams is 5 feet 9 inches in height and extremely broad at the shoulders. He is one of the two

city's only Negro fire lieutenant since 1927 and, incidentally, the first in the department's history. Two days ago his name was listed among the thirty lieutenants who have passed the examination for promotion to Captain. He is one of four Negroes in the department.

schooling beyond the  
lot.

When he first entered the street House "the  
him a bit, to use his  
but that did not last

Williams is 5 feet 10 inches tall, weighs 180 pounds, is 25 years of age, single, and has no previous military service. He is a native of New York and has been in the United States for 10 years. He has a high school diploma and has been employed as a clerk in a department store for the past five years. He has no criminal record and has no known associates who are involved in criminal activities. He is a member of the American Legion and has been active in its affairs for the past three years. He is a good citizen and has a good reputation in his community. He is a member of the United States Army and has been in the service for the past two years. He is a private first class and has been in the service for the past two years. He is a good soldier and has a good reputation in his unit. He is a member of the United States Army and has been in the service for the past two years. He is a private first class and has been in the service for the past two years. He is a good soldier and has a good reputation in his unit.

Lieut. Williams entered the department fourteen years ago. He is an unusually sturdy man and, in the history of the force, only the second to pass the physical examination with a rating of perfect. The other was Soldier Kearns, who once boxed against Jess Willard.

Born and raised in New York, Williams is raising a family that includes a son, Charles Russell, 15 years old, who wants to duplicate his father's record, but in the Police Department. An older son, James, is going to study dentistry. Lieut. Williams's grandfather, John W., now 90 years old, a former slave, lives in New York.

men in department history who passed the physical examination with a perfect rating. The other is Soldier Kearns, former pugilist and opponent of Jess Willard.

Williams is a New York product. His father is "Jim" Williams, chief of the Grand Central redcaps.

Lieut. Williams has been married 13 years and lives with his family at 3542 Webster ave., in the Bronx. James H., his 17-year-old son, will finish at De Witt Clinton H. S. next term; he wants to be a dentist. Charles Russell Williams, 15, is at Evander Childs; he hopes to be a policeman. The youngest

A modest man is Wesley Williams, and a quiet, studious one when interviewed called on him last Wednesday in the old firehouse at 3683 Broome Street, where he commands Engine 55 and where he has served ever since he entered the department fourteen years ago, he made light of his new honors.

Along the walls of his quarters in the firehouse are perhaps 100 books—most of them of the "outline" type—"Outline of History," "Outline of Science" and similar titles—and a number of Five Department textbooks, most of them by James W.

Heffernan, deputy fire chief and school  
the department pedagogue. a

**Rise Laid to Studies.** Lieutenant Williams attributes his rise from the ranks to his studies.

He was deep in one of Heffernan's works when the interviewers entered. He put the book down, and in answer to questions, traced his career. He was graduated from an elementary school in Harlem; nois-



*[The following text is partially obscured by a black redaction bar.]*



# Truth Is More Interesting Than Fiction, Detective Brown Thinks

## Harlem Sleuth Solved Case Rivalling Old O. Henry Story

By T. R. POSTON.

Fabian Perez will probably tell his grandchildren about it. Of course, a milkman does a lot of things in the daily performance of his duties, but it isn't every day that he runs across the corpse of a youth murdered in cold blood.

"It was April 24, 1932," he will probably begin, "I was crossing the road at 102 West 142d street when I used to do every morning when I looked down at my feet and there it was—the bullet-riddled body of young Ned Walker, the butcher's assistant!"

To be sure, the milkman didn't know that it was Ned Walker's body. The youth's identity, occupation, previous residence and nativity were established in the investigation which followed the spreading of the alarm by Perez. In fact, everything was established except the identity of the slayer and the motive for the cold-blooded destruction of the sober hard-working and well-liked youth.

### He Finds a Button.

It looked like a tough case. Especially to Detective George Brown, who had only been out of uniform for three months, and who with the veteran sleuth, George Webber, had been assigned to track down the murderer. The powder-burned coat, empty pockets and staring eyes of the victim offered little evidence to work on and the two detectives were just about to leave the scene of the crime when Brown spied a ragged thread of fabric protruding from the tightly clenched fist of the corpse. Curious, he pried open the fist and found a button. Not much, but all they had to work on.

Routine investigation at Walker's home at 2026 Seventh avenue revealed certain things. The 22-year-old youth, usually quiet, had been worried for the last few days. So worried that he had talked to friends and his sweetheart. It seems that while he was living in Florida his brother had committed a crime. Another man had been charged with the deed and sent to prison.

### Victim Gets Letter.

A few weeks before he was killed

Walker had received a threatening letter blaming him and his brother for the miscarriage of justice. Further investigation revealed that on the night of the murder a strange man had called for the youth at the butcher shop where he worked and had been driven with Walker to the 142d street address to see a "girl from Florida." Everything seemed to be pointing to the wronged man as the revengeful slayer. Everything except a communication from the Florida authorities which proved that the wronged man was still in jail there.

The case dragged on for three days and Detective Brown, making another trip to Walker's house, was just a bit discouraged. As he was sitting in the Seventh avenue apartment a friend of the slain youth, Ralph Green, 25, came in. He had known Walker from youth and was deeply touched at his violent death. He knew Walker's parents and wanted to gather Ned's effects together and mail them to his mother and father. Green was being consoled by other members of the household when Detective Brown asked Green a seemingly irrelevant question:

"Where," he inquired, moving between Green and the door, "is the middle button on your overcoat?"

"Where," he inquired, moving between Green and the door, "is the middle button on your overcoat?"

## Rose From Rookie to Plainclothesman in Mere 3 Months

Green was unable to answer convincingly—either to Detective Brown or to the General Sessions jury which found him guilty of second degree murder after it was proved that the button found in Walker's hand came from Green's coat and that the accused youth was a brother of the man who had been wrongfully jailed in Florida. Green was given 20 years for several years.

Although he has been on the force less than two years, Brown's has been one of the most hectic careers in the local unit. On June 28, 1931, the day of his graduation from the rookie school, he was seriously injured in an automobile accident in which his wife, Josephine, received a fractured skull and a cut which necessitated 18 stitches. Brown was off duty three months as a result of the mishap and carried a piece of glass in his left

### Tackles Holdup Men.

On the second day after he reported to duty on October 2, 1931, he tackled two of five holdup men who had stabbed and robbed a white motorist on 128th street and beat them into submission. One of them, George Gunther, was given 15 years. Three weeks later he subdued an armed stickup man who was retreating from a furniture store he had just robbed at 127th street and Eighth avenue. This youth, Richard Strong, was given 2½ to 5 years. Two weeks later he visited the home of a suspect who had robbed a man of his clothes and money. While questioning the man he saw him watching a shoe on the floor and drew his gun just before the man made a dive for the footpiece. He was lucky, for a .32 calibre revolver was concealed in the spacious depths of the shoe. The man, Albert Jackson, was given 2½ to 5 years.

One week later Brown shot it out with Thomas Rein, a white youth who had just made the Regal Store at 125th street and Seventh avenue his seventh stickup job for the night of November 19, 1931. Recovering from bullet wounds in the stomach and arm, Rein was given a long prison term and Brown was given two commendations and promotion to plainclothes.

Does he like his work? "Sure," he will tell you. "I like it. I always wanted to be a detective. But those detective stories are a lot of bunk. Truth is more interesting than fiction." Shade of O. Henry.



Detective Geo. Brown.



# Only Four Negro Fire Fighters in New York

*Amsterdam News*  
One Is a Lieutenant—Few Make Application  
for Positions in That Department

The last Negro to become a member of the New York City Fire Department joined in 1926. The first in 1914. There are only four now out of a total of 5,541 men in the department.

No one as yet has come forward with a plausible explanation as to why Negroes have shunned this branch of the city service. In ratio there have been at least fifty applicants for places on the Police Force as against every candidate for the Fire Department. In the Sanitation Department the ratio has been almost as large.

One explanation, supplied by a youth just out of a southern college, who found it expedient to apply for a fireman's job because nothing else was available, reported the following painful interview at the Municipal Building, where he had gone for information:

"To be fair with you, buddy," a white fire official told him, "I wouldn't join if I were you."

"Any particular reason?" asked the young man.

"Well, you probably know the answer as well as I do, pal," said the fireman. "I'm not trying to discourage you. But I'm just telling you confidentially that they will do everything to flunk you in the examinations. And if they can't do that, they will make your life miserable on the force, send you to a station a heck of a distance away from home, and you catch the devil from every superior officer. They would have to put you in a station full of white men because we have no Negro station."

"I wouldn't want to be in a segregated station," said the youth. "I think I'll try anyway."

And he did. He flunked. But whether because of his own lack of qualification or because of a process of discrimination, The Amsterdam News is unprepared to say. The treatment accorded the four Negro members of the department is contrary to the last theory.

The leading Negro representative in the department is Lieut. Wesley Williams, attached to Engine Company 55, located at 366 Broome street. He joined January 10, 1919, and earns a salary now of \$3,635. Without the

cut now in effect for all members of the department, the pay for this position is \$3,900. Lieutenant Williams recently took an examination for a fire captaincy, and is at present No. 12 on the list for promotion. He probably will attain the higher rank in 1934.

The veteran Negro member of the department is John H. Woodson, attached to Engine Company 298, at 89-56 162d street, Jamaica, L. I. Woodson joined September 21, 1914. He is a first-grade fireman with a salary of \$2,810.

Arnold A. Joell, assigned to Engine Company 17, is a World War veteran. He joined the Fire Department May 15, 1926, is a first-grade fireman and earns the same pay as Mr. Woodson.

Last of the quartet is Edward L. Brantley, of Engine Company 17, located at 91 Ludlow street, who became a member of the fire fighting force on April 5, 1928. He earns \$2,810 per year as a first-grade fireman.

The starting pay in the Fire Department is \$2,000 for third-grade recruits, \$2,345 for second-grade men, and \$2,180 for first-grade fire fighters, where the pay remains stationary until the men receive a promotion.



# CHARLOTTE, N. C. OBSERVER

JUL 27 1933

## FIREMEN'S CONTESTS OF THE PAST.

In connection with the State Firemen's Convention in Salisbury, The Post prints a picture of an animated street scene in that city, back in 1896, when the annual firemen's contest was going on. The town was gay in flags and bunting, with roofs filled with people wanting a better look-on than could be secured from the ground. The engine contest was going on and three of the old-timers are shown, with the Charlotte Hornet's engine in the foreground, fitted with an extra bit of sheet iron smoke stack, for the purpose of creating a strong draft, to facilitation of steam and spouting. The extra pipe was the idea of Jake Hand, the most enthusiastic of the old-time firemen, barring Landecker, alone—the boys used to turn in a false alarm just to see Landecker abandon the customer in Elias & Cohen's to make a run to the fire — and the device served to win many contests for the Charlotte firemen. Then there were the reel races, the day winding up with the hand engine race by the negro department. The engine was provided with side-length handles, affording hand-hold for ten firemen on each side, and as the negroes pumped they would sing their company songs. And incidental to the old days would be the adjournment to the beer shops, but there was no disorders and all hands were on good behavior. People of this generation, knowing nothing of the firemen's contests of former days, know nothing of the real thrill in public entertainment.

## WINSTON SALEM, N. C. JOURNAL

AUG 16 1933

### Praises Negro Officer For His Cool Action

To the Editor of The Journal:

While passing through your city August 12, I saw an incident worthy of mention.

I was trailing a car in from the direction of Greensboro on East Fifth street, and just as the car preceded me entered the intersection of Maple avenue, a coupe driven by a Negro dashed right out of Maple avenue without warning of any kind. The two cars collided, and one car turned over and the other headed into a building. I don't see why someone wasn't killed.

The Negro, freeing himself from the wreck, ran. There were about 50 Negroes standing around. None offered help, but just stood there and laughed at the Negro running.

A man drove up in a car, picked up the white man and ran and caught the colored man. I learned that this man was a Negro and an officer.

His name was Walter Long. I want him to know just what I think of his noble deed, his impartiality and the cool way in which he handled the crowd of Negroes. The Negroes seemed to have a lot of respect for Long.

I hope that you will publish this letter so that Long may see his deed attracted the attention of a passerby.

T. B. LAMOND.

Randleman, N. C.,

August 15, 1933.

## RALEIGH, N. C. TIMES

AUG 19 1933

### COLORED FIREMEN

Elizabeth City has hardly had a better behaved body of visitors than the group which attended the forty-third annual convention of the North Carolina Colored Fire Association Tuesday and Wednesday of this week.

They deserved in full degree every iota of the welcome and honor accorded them by this community. The Daily Advance hopes also that the plea voiced during the meeting for a square deal under the new deal for the Negro wage earner in this and other communities of the State will be heard and heeded.

Then there is another reason why The Daily Advance wants to say a word in way of comradely greeting to this group of visitors before they go out of our city. Back in the days before present Duplex Web perfecting press was installed in The Daily Advance shop, a member of the Quick Step Hook and Ladder Company of Elizabeth City was a member of the force of the Daily Advance. This newspaper never had a more loyal or devoted employe than Jim McMurren, some time janitor and some time alternating with the boss in feeding the Miehle press on which The Daily Advance was then printed. Whenever a new piece of machinery or equipment is installed we grieve to think Jim did not live to see the evidence of our progress and share our pride in it.

Jim is gone but somehow we have a feeling that the colored firemen in the city today and yesterday are in the main like Jim. So this word of greeting with the hope that they have had a good time among us and that it won't be long before they meet with us again.

—Elizabeth City Advance

## Colored Police Winston-Salem

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.—An appeal for a more liberal distribution of the city tax money and the appointment of colored policemen was urged by Mrs. L. B. Neal, president of the Phyllis Wheatley Home, in a letter to the Winston-Salem Journal.

Mrs. Neal's letter was based on the zoning regulations and urged that in those areas restricted to colored people that policemen be picked from their own group to reduce crime.

Mrs. Neal also suggested that this same rule be stretched to include other lines of endeavor. Her letter on this point says:

"Again, zoning implies that Negro mail carriers could serve our communities more effectively. There

are at least a score of men here who could qualify for this service. Negro case workers, we feel, could do a more constructive piece of case work with our maladjusted clients than any other people. We know our resources and our limitations. In fact no other race can know us as we know ourselves. But then—this is true of all races. Perhaps there are some among us who can qualify for such positions also. Should not the Negro wing of the City Hospital be manned by our own physicians? Was it not originally intended that this condition should prevail? Do we always receive justice in the courts? Isn't it almost paradoxical that there is no discrimination in taxation? Street assessments and property taxes, for example. Think on these things, I pray you. Are we lacking in civic pride? Perhaps a cause might be found in the fact that we share no municipal responsibilities. I say again, we are begging and praying for justice along all lines."



Policemen and Firemen-1933

## YES, COPS CAN LAUGH AND COPS CAN DANCE



AL KERR

O. F. BARNETT

SGT. E. E. JONES

WILLIAM MOORE

Announcement this week that the famous Thamon Hayes Orchestra will head the bill at the monster Policemen's Ball, January 26, has the dance fans in half a dozen towns adjacent to Oklahoma City on edge. The dance will be given at the beautiful Market Square Garden. Sgt. Jones returned from Kansas City Monday where he signed a contract with the Hayes Orchestra, absolutely assuring their appearance here on the 26th. *Black Dispatch 1-19-33*

This is the first attempt on the part of the colored policemen of the city to join in raising the money with which each year the police department pays for group insurance. The boys have been receiving the insurance policies, but heretofore colored citizens have not backed the fund. *Oklahoma City Okla.*

In addition to the famous Hayes Orchestra, which will furnish mu-

sic, the dance management has also secured the services of pretty, petite Miss Naomi Bowen, New York night club entertainer, who will charm the audience with song and sensational Spanish dances.

Tickets are on sale at all drug stores and can be secured from any of the smiling policemen in the picture above. The four policemen above have on a contest among themselves to determine which from among their number can sell the most tickets. They are depending upon their friends to put them over the top.

The Oklahoma City Negro Business League recently gave its endorsement to the plan to annually stage this event. The admission price is 50c. That big, wide grin on the face of each one of our "coppers" is in anticipation of the "four bits" you are going to fling in the hopper January 26 at Market Square Garden. Hours from 9 until.





These men are smiling because the annual policemen's ball on January 26 enabled them to raise their share of the police insurance fund.

This raises the question that if a far southern city like Oklahoma City can employ black men as cops, why is it that Baltimore must spend each year four million dollars of the taxpayers' money for a lily-white police force.

*Afro-American*  
THE AFRO asks General Charles D. Gaither, Baltimore Commissioner of Police, can he defend his lily-white policy? And THE AFRO urges its readers to write Governor Ritchie urging the retirement of General Gaither and the employment of a younger and more tolerant police head, who will treat all taxpayers as citizens.



# No Negro Police To Be Sent To Inaugural

A "help city" has been sent to the Philadelphia police department by the Washington police department for next Saturday. It has been stated that 100 local police are needed to augment the Capital's force for the inauguration. Assistant Superintendent of police of this city, James A. Taylor, told the TRIBUNE, last Tuesday that no Negro police officers will be sent to Washington from here. He stated as his reason that only traffic patrolmen will be sent and that there are no Negroes in this department.

As citizens of the United States it seems that some Negro police should be sent from here. As a matter of fact there should be Negroes in the Traffic Department here. One might also wonder who is going to handle the traffic situation here on Saturday when 100 of "Philadelphia's finest" leave for the Capital.

## FIRE COMPANY NO. 11

ONE of the excuses given by public officials, who do not desire to give Negroes executive positions, is that Negroes will not follow Negro leadership.

Generally speaking, that is not exactly correct. However, it is frequently expressed by members of the dominant group that Negroes will follow a white man in preference to one of their own kind. It is true that colored people sometimes show a tendency to prefer white leadership. This follows because those who are in the ranks believe they can get more from a white man than they can from a Negro.

The answer, then, is not that Negroes object to following one of their own because he is a Negro, but they are afraid they will lose something; that they will not receive as much. Speaking in terms of dollars and cents this reasoning may be correct, but the long visioned individual will readily understand that immediate gains often mean that the desired end will never be attained; that killing Negro leadership will prevent the fuller accomplishment of racial advancement.

Regardless of the reason, colored citizens can not afford to jeopardize Negro leadership. Fire Company Number Eleven has a Negro Lieutenant. Three or four of the hosemen object to certain orders of their "Chief." They do not want to take orders from one of their own. These men lose sight of the fact that if Lieutenant Graham does not succeed, they fail. If he succeeds, they have a chance for promotion. Then, too, it will help disprove the assertion that Negroes have no respect for their own people. That indictment must be corrected. The only way to do it is for colored men to make personal sacrifices to make Negro leadership successful.

As a practical proposition, if Graham succeeds he may be promoted to the position of Captain. That will give some hoseman the opportunity to become Lieutenant. It is gratifying to know, however, that the majority of the men in Fire Company Number Eleven are loyal and working hard to prove that Negroes do respect and will follow Negro leadership.

# Local Policewoman "Gets Her Woman" Despite Bars Of Jim-Crow In The South

BRAVE!



Mrs. Sheard Hawkins is a brave woman . . . and she would have to be to perform the duties of police woman for Allegheny County. Mrs. Hawkins is the only Negro policewoman on the local force. She likes her work very much and says it is always affording inviting thrills. Her most recent experience was the returning of a woman slayer who had escaped to Tennessee.

She is charmingly feminine and voiced . . . in fact, you would believe she represented the arm of the law.

Mrs. Sheard Hawkins, the only Negro policewoman and the first of her race to be sent on an assignment to an out-of-town city on a murder case, accompanied Sergeant Wheeler, of the Homicide squad, to Rockdale, Tenn., where they arrested a woman and brought her back.

The prisoner is Gertrude Gragg,

who fatally shot her husband, Alonzo Gragg, of 2126 Heman street, on Feb. 1, 1929, after an argument over a 10-cent piece. The woman was Gragg's common-law wife, her real name being Fannie Jones. Testimony indicates that following the argument between the pair, the woman secured a revolver and shot Gragg three times. She fled, going first to Louisville, Ky., thence to Nashville, Columbia and thence to McPleasant, Tenn. Later she went to her brother's home in Rockdale, Tenn. Local detectives intercepted mail which the woman sent to Pittsburgh and Mrs. Hawkins and Sergeant Wheeler went to Tennessee and arrested her.

Sergeant Wheeler, in telling of the trip, explained that as far as Cincinnati, everything was O. K. insofar as traveling conditions, but after they left Cincinnati it was like going into "No Man's Land." They did not want to allow Mrs. Hawkins proper and suitable railroad accommodations, and after I put her on the train, I dared them to put her off, Sergeant Wheeler said. He also said that he felt that if anyone would have interfered with her that he would have punched them in the nose. He even had to tell railroad officials that she was a Federal prisoner in order that she could get accommodations, he said.

Upon arriving in Nashville, he found it difficult to find suitable accommodations for her. Finally a porter directed him to take her to the Y. W. C. A., which he did, and she was comfortably accommodated there.

It was even difficult to get a taxicab out to the Y. W. C. A., Wheeler said. He finally succeeded in doing this. After Mrs. Hawkins became located in Nashville, however, she was cordially received and even spoke at one of the schools there.



# Sees Camden Suicide



*Philadelphia*  
PATROLMAN JOSEPH BROWN

Of the Camden police force arrived at the Durham death house, 952 S Eighth st., only in time to see Durham take his own life. As the office broke into the house he also held the two spots which showed out Mr. Durham's life.

## 20 Years' Service



*Indiana*  
JAMES DEBIAN

1443 Fawn Street, attached to 18th district. He is com-interviewed the white fireman who pleted 20 years of continuous service is supposed to be colored, Monday. vice. He has been commended His home is a pretty bungalow in

several times for bravery. On Aug. 25, 1923, he was awarded a gold medal from the Civic Safety Fund for distinguished service.

## Pa. Citizen Has Written Officials to This Effect.

### SAYS RACE IS NOT WIDELY KNOWN

## Fireman Says Matter Is Blackmail Effort.

That the AFRO-AMERICAN may have been wrong all these years in stating that the Baltimore Fire Department has no colored members, a letter received in the office from a Uniontown, Pa., reader, revealed this week.

According to this letter one of the present members of the fire department is believed to be a member of a colored family, but the fact has not been generally known. The letter, in part, follows:

To the Editor of the AFRO:

Reading in your last week's issue of the injustice being done to the colored people, not being admitted to the fire department of Baltimore, Mr. Travers (chief) and Mr. Sharp (president of the Board of Fire Commissioners) may think there aren't any but I am in position to know of a colored fellow of Uniontown that has been in the employment for a number of years. He is very fair and is married to a white woman and can hardly be told from a white man. The whole family is very fair and lives in Uniontown, Pa.

The said party doesn't want it known that he is colored, but he is.

I am also sending a duplicate letter to your fire chief so go after him and let him know you received this letter from me.

The said party has a living son 21 years old.

### Gives Interview

the suburbs, at which time he stated that he preferred to make no statement at all about the matter. He admitted, however, that some time ago a similar charge had been made to officials of the fire department but that such statements were part of a plan to blackmail him.

He is married to a white woman and has a wife and one child.

### Fellow Cops Honor

### Hero Of Gun Battle



ERNEST WRIGHT

Patrolman Ernest Wright, attached to the seventeenth Police District, Twentieth and Federal sts. for twenty years of service in the police department last Tuesday. He was presented with an electric clock, Elgin wrist watch and several other gifts of appreciation from his fellow officers.

Patrolman Wright has made numerous important arrests and was engaged in a gun battle that resulted in the arrest of a band of notorious criminals.



Chattanooga, Tenn.  
TIMES

APR 3 1933  
COLORED 'LAW'

## Wants Mental Test Before Negroes Get Badges.

To The Chattanooga Times:

May I have space in your paper to call attention of the public to a deplorable condition that exists in our fair city. With all due respect to our able and efficient city commission and our newly-elected high sheriff, I feel that if these officials see fit to give Chattanooga and Hamilton county colored officers, that before they are appointed and turned loose among the colored race, they be given an educational and mental test.

Why should the police commissioner or sheriff select any old Tom, Dick or Harry, clothe him with the authority of the law and place or cause to be placed in his hand a pistol and blackjack to oppress a people that are already oppressed?

If we must have colored officers, why not, in the cause of common sense and for the sake of human lives, select men who are men and whose characters are unquestionable?

WILL SHEPHERD, Colored.

944 East Third street.

Chattanooga, Tenn.  
Times

Sept. 7, 1933

## JUDGE'S IRE FALLS ON NEGRO OFFICER

Fleming Holds Davis to Jury  
Under Bond of \$500.

Declares Man Has Beaten Too  
Many Colored Citizens to  
Be Tolerated Further.

Abner ("Bull") Davis, colored park officer, charged with official oppression and running a gambling game, was held to the grand jury under \$500 bond by Judge Martin Fleming in city court yesterday.

"You're through up here," Judge Fleming said to the colored officer in giving his decision. "If a white officer had beaten up as many colored

people as you have been accused of this department for more than five years and we have never had one sin-citizenship of the city would be in-gle complaint against him until a few months ago, when it seems that two warring political factions among the colored people were brought into being. He has a splendid record as a police officer. You've beaten up more people who have complained here in officer at the park and no charges had this court than my conscience will let me rest over."

Davis' star witness, T. H. Gates, admitted on cross-examination that he was "practically Davis' brother-in-law," which was explained as meaning that Davis went with the boy's sister. On a previous occasion, it was revealed, Davis had Gates arrested when they had some trouble over Gates' efforts to break up the affair between his sister and Davis.

The charges against Davis grew out of his arrest late in August of five colored boys, one of whom he charged with driving while drunk and the others with prowling. At the trial of the boys they told of having been in a "skin" game, with Davis as dealer, a few moments before he arrested them. They said that the game broke up because a woman upstairs was going to call the police because of a disturbance in her apartment. Ed Teasley, the boy charged with driving while drunk, claimed that Davis had given him the only drink of liquor he had had that night, when he asked "Bull" for a quarter after Davis had won all his money. The arrest was made near the scene of the game, Fifth and Palmetto streets, after the boys had discovered a flat tire on their car, which they stopped to fix. Davis is said to have started an argument with the boys, one of whom he hit across the head with his pistol, when one of the boys exclaimed over hurting his hand. At the approach of the white officers, called to the scene by the disturbance upstairs in the house they had just vacated, Davis placed the boys under arrest. Judge Fleming made out the warrants against Davis at the conclusion of the trial and gave him a few days to prepare a defense.

The boys, including Teasley, Charles Kelley, Robert Saxon, Curtis Jones and J. T. Hart, stood firmly by their original testimony yesterday. Testimony of Robert Jackson and Will Shepherd, colored, was added to that of the five boys. The Gates boy, who testified in Davis' behalf, claimed to have been present at the game with the boys, as they agreed, but insisted that Davis was not there. James Davis, Aleck Warsaw, Robert Jackson, Sam Allison and B. Low also testified for the officer. Their story was that the officer was not present during the game. Warsaw said he was in the game also.

The courtroom was crowded with colored people. Commissioner James A. Cash, under whom Davis serves as a park officer, said yesterday afternoon that he will not divest Davis of his office until he, himself, makes a thorough investigation of the charges.

The commissioner prepared a statement for The Times, which follows:

"Davis has been in the employ of

## For Public Decency

TESTIMONY was offered in City Court to show that Abner ("Bull") Davis, Negro park officer, ran a gambling game; that he gave a Negro boy liquor and then arrested him for "driving while drunk," and that he otherwise depicted himself as a "bad man," rather than a police officer.

Judge Fleming properly held him to the grand jury, and declared:

You're through up here. If a white officer had beaten up as many colored people as you have been accused of from time to time, the whole colored citizenship of the city would be incensed. I think it's my duty to protect the colored people from a vicious colored officer. You've beaten up more people who have complained here in this court than my conscience will let me rest over.

Politics has, unfortunately, resulted in a determined drive by Judge Fleming's foes in the City Hall to oust him from his office. However, if the charges against "Bull" Davis are true, no friend of decent government could object to the Judge's action.

Nashville, Tenn. Banner

October 10, 1933

## Negro Fire Department Officer Promoted

M. J. Smith, member of the Negro division of the City Fire Department, today was advanced from lieutenant to captain and on October 15 officially will take the place of Capt. L. T. McLinn, recently retired.

Other advancements announced for the department included the promotion of Pipeman Robert Campbell to lieutenant and the appointment of James Childress, substitute pipeman to a regular place as pipeman.

## NEGRO DEPUTY FEUD FLARES HIGH AGAIN

Hunt, Officer in This Inning,  
Arrests Sherman, 'Paying  
Back' Ex-Fee Man.

The old trouble between E. B. Sherman and Granville Hunt, the off-and-on Negro deputy sheriffs at the county jail, has flared up again.

Sherman was arrested by Hunt Friday night on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses, and will be given preliminary hearing before Squire Bayless at 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

According to Squire Bayless, who issued the warrant against Sherman, J. W. Wagner, an attorney, accuses Sherman of falsely obtaining \$37.50.

Hunt was a deputy under former Sheriff Charlie Taylor and was let out when Sheriff John K. Tate took office, Tate commissioning Sherman. Sherman and Hunt shortly after the change became involved in difficulties, and Sherman arrested Hunt on a pistol-carrying charge. Then Hunt got a commission from Sheriff Tate, and, recently, Sherman was let out by Tate.

Hunt, a friend of Abner ("Bull") Davis, colored officer with the city park system, who is under indictment on charges of gaming, drunkenness and assault and battery, is in trouble with the city court himself. He was ordered by Judge Martin Fleming to serve ten days in jail for contempt of court, but is fighting the sentence through a writ of habeas corpus, now pending before Judge L. D. Miller.



# Leading Citizens Sign Bond Of Austin Negro Policeman

## FACES CHARGE OF MURDER FOR 19TH SLAYING

"Yerwood then went into the house and I went over to talk to McKinney."

James said he warned McKinney that no liquor was to be sold in the vicinity of the dance hall. He said one word led to another, that McKinney cursed him.

"He called me a name and reached toward his hip pocket and I shot him," James said.

A formal complaint charging James with murder was filed by City

Austin.—"Juneteenth" began Mon-Det. W. F. Flow in Peace Justice J. M. day in Austin's Negro section with anGriffith's court. James was released early morning dance and the death by on \$1000 bail.

pistol wounds of Paul McKinney, 26. The officer's bond was signed by

Ananias N. James, Negro policeman, Col. L. D. Lyons, Prof. W. H. Fuller, Dr. C. H. Christian, W. C. (Joe) Lyons, W. M. Mosely, and Dr. E. H. Givens. Negroes of Austin are unanimous in saying that Officer James is a high class, clean, straightforward citizen and police officer.

The shooting occurred about 4:15 a. m. McKinney died in Brackenridge Hospital at 5:10 a. m.

### Police Notified

Following the shooting Officer James notified police headquarters of the affair and asked that an ambulance be summoned to the scene.

James then went to police headquarters to report the occurrence to Police Chief Raymond D. Thorp.

He told newspapermen that he shot in self defense, claiming that McKinney cursed him and made a motion with his right hand toward his hip pocket.

James said Henry Yerwood, operator of the Paradise Inn, had asked him several times to "keep bootleggers away from the place."

"One dance started this morning at 12:15 a. m. at the dance hall and broke up promptly at 3 o'clock," James said. "Another started soon afterward."

### Pointed Out McKinney

"Henry Yerwood and I were sitting on the steps of the place about 4 o'clock or a little after and Yerwood called my attention to a former conversation we had had about bootleggers."

"There's Paul McKinney there now," Yerwood said.



# Negro Policemen

There has been no let-up in the weekly casualty lists resulting from week-end brawls in the Negro sections of this city. The failure to break up the lawlessness leads to the inevitable conclusion that there is something radically wrong with the policing of these sections. Quite a controversy was provoked about a year ago, when Judge J. Hoge Ricks suggested that the time was ripe for employment of Negro police officers to patrol the Negro sections. The chief of police grew indignant and said that he and his lily white police force had the situation well in hand. The repercussions of the controversy were felt in the Democratic primary last August and probably contributed to defeat of one of the candidates. The soundness of Judge Ricks' suggestion has been made manifest, however, by this reign of lawlessness which the police department as constituted at present, has been powerless to cope with.

The reputation of Richmond as a law-abiding community is being damaged and the life and safety of its Negro residents are being jeopardized in the interest of a foolish race prejudice which prohibits the employment of Negroes as police officers, when the experiences of other Southern cities show excellent results in crime prevention among Negroes through their use.

This view is shared and expressed by Dr Monroe W. Works in the Negro Year Book page 83:

"The demand is growing, especially by the Negroes themselves, that in districts of cities where Negroes predominate, Negro police should be used. It is urged that would be a means, not only of reducing crime, but likewise of preventing racial friction."

Louisville, Ky.; Memphis and Knoxville Tenn.; Sarasota and Tampa, Fla.; Beaumont Houston and Galveston, Texas; Muskogee Oklahoma City, Tulsa and Okmulgee, Okla. have reduced their homicide record through the use of Negro policemen. Why does Richmond hold out?



# W. VA. TEACHER IS MADE FIRST WOMAN SHERIFF

KEYSTONE, W. Va., April 28.—To Mrs. Aileen Smootz Parson goes the distinction of being the first woman sheriff in this state following her appointment to that position in McDowell county here several days ago.

Mrs. Parson, the mother of two sons and for 35 years a teacher in the public schools here, is the first woman of either race to be named deputy sheriff. Aside from being a member of the faculty of the Keystone-Echman junior high school, she was also dental clinician in the schools.

Joseph Parson Sr., husband of the newly named sheriff, died here several weeks ago. Until his death and for the last 35 years, he was also a deputy sheriff in the Keystone district. He was also for many years head of the Republican party activities in this section of the state. Mrs. Parson is the sister of Attorney H. J. Capehart of Welch, W. Va., and has two sons, Joseph Jr. and Watson Parson.